No Objection to Declassification in Part 2011/09/30 : LOC-HAK-249-1-40-0

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T SENSITIVE EYES ONLY

WH30690

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FEBRUARY 28, 1973

TO: AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN FOR SECRETARY ROGERS

FROM: GENERAL SCOWCROFT

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT ISSUED BY RON ZIEGLER AT THE PRESS BRIEFING TODAY AS I INDICATED TO THE SECRETARY ON THE TELEPHONE:

"IN A PRIVATE MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY OF STATE ROGERS AND FOREIGN MINISTER TRINH, THE FOREIGN MINISTER STATED HIS GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO FULLY CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT DEALING WITH POW'S. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE GAVE THE ASSURANCE OF HIS GOVERNMENT THAT ALL POW'S HELD BY HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE RELEASED WITHIN THE 60-DAY PERIOD SET FORTH IN THE AGREEMENT. WITH REGARD TO THE NEXT PHASE OF RELEASE OF THE POW'S, WHICH UNDER ARTICLE 8(B) OF THE CEASEFIRE PROTOCOL AND ARTICLE 4 OF THE PRISONER PROTOCOL IS DUE THIS WEEK, FOREIGN MINISTER TRINH SAID THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT ONCE IN THE JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION IN ORDER TO WORK OUT THE DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS.

"THE PRESIDENT HAS DIRECTED SECRETARY ROGERS TO PROCEED WITH THE OTHER BUSINESS OF THE CONFERENCE AS SCHEDULED AS SOON AS THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEXT PHASE OF THE PRISONER RELEASE ARE COMPLETED." WARM REGARDS.

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MORI PER C03364131

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

State Dept. review completed

INFO COPIES TO: LORD, HOWE

PSN:001796 PAGE 01 OF 01 TDR:059/18:19Z DTG:281740Z

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